

Appl. No. 09/452,691
Reply to Office action of 09/22/2004

REMARKS

Entry of the above amendment and reconsideration of the above-referenced application in view of the above amendment, and of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 6-8, 21, and 22 are pending in this case. Claim 1 is amended herein and claims 2, and 19-20 are cancelled herein.

The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) as not showing every feature of the claim. Claim 19 has been cancelled to overcome the objection.

Claims 21-22 stand allowed.

The Examiner objected to claim 2 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but that would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 2 is rewritten as amended claim 1 including all the features of the base claim. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon are allowable.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ishikawa et al. (U.S. Patent 5,751,050).

Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon are unanticipated by Ishikawa for the reasons discussed above regarding former claim 2.

The Examiner rejected claims 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishikawa as applied to Claim 1 above, and further in view of Redford et al. (U.S. Patent 6,081,014).

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Applicant respectfully submits that claims 6-8 are patentable over the references for the reasons discussed above relative to amended claim 1, from which these claims depend.

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections and allowance of claims 1, 3, 6-8, 21, and 22. If the Examiner has any questions or other correspondence regarding this application, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's attorney at the below listed telephone number and address.

Respectfully submitted,



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